

DAILY NEWS.

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PRINTER TO THE STATE.

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TERMS:

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CIRCULATION.

THE DAILY NEWS has the largest daily circulation in the State, and the largest circulation in any other city in the State.

The circulation of the Daily and Weekly News is nearly 3,000, and reaches more readers than any other paper in North Carolina.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Each subscriber will see plainly printed on the paper on which his name is printed the date when his subscription will expire. Subscribers desiring to renew will do so in time to have a new date printed on the paper. Any subscriber failing to receive a copy of his paper will confer a favor by notifying this office.

All communications should be addressed simply to THE NEWS, Raleigh, N. C.

Persons unable to obtain the NEWS at News Agencies, on Railway and other places where news is sold, will confer a favor by reporting the fact to us.

Our subscribers will greatly oblige us by giving a good account of any delay in receiving their papers.

Now for Oregon!

REPUBLICANS are defrauding us of our President, at Washington. But here they ask Democrats for office! And expect to succeed.

ELSEWHERE we publish a perfectly correct statement of the next Senate of the United States.

THE SWAMP LAND BILL was indefinitely postponed in the Senate yesterday. The next Legislature will have a chance.

THE colored Bishop Hood, the best exponent of the sentiments and feelings of the colored race of this State, is squarely opposed to any scheme of colonization.

WOULD it not be well enough for the Legislature to see how it is that Mr. Scott can set in the House as representative from Jones; and also as State director in Humphrey's board, and help defraud the State out of one of her railroads?

The death of Hon. Calvin Graves, at his home in Caswell county, last Sunday, has cast a gloom over a wide circle of friends. He was honored and beloved by all who knew him well, and leaves behind him an unmissed name and memory. He died at a ripe age, in the quiet seclusion of his country home.

Our neighbor the Sentinel is fearful that Gov. Vance is not a good Democrat. A long article in Friday's issue is evidently written in the interest and with the knowledge of L. W. Humphrey. And that's just what's to be done with us—that W. A. Hearne and L. W. Humphrey, should assuage Gov. Vance as not being Simon-pure! Ain't it so?

Short-sighted Republicans exult over the result in the Florida case, and treat it as the forerunner of a final triumph. They should first consider what was and what was not decided by the eight Republicans on the Commission, and then contemplate the position in which the declaration that Hayes is chosen President will place that individual.

Why is this? That we can't get our Daily exchanges, particularly those of Raleigh and Charlotte, and to intensify the perplexity, we can't get away with the man who is to blame for all this. Who is the man?—*Pollution Answer.*

We should all like to know who "the man" is. We are loth to believe that the postal agents are deliberately miscarrying, delaying or destroying the daily papers of Raleigh or Charlotte. Perhaps if Col. Thos. M. Long, would turn his attention to the matter, the evils so loudly and generally complained of might be remedied.

EIGHT TO SEVEN.

The commission yesterday decided the question as to the admissibility of evidence to show fraud in the Louisiana case. They refused to go behind the returns of the Louisiana Returning Board, holding that no testimony can be received except the electoral certificates, and gave the State to Hayes.

As was expected the vote stood 8 to 7—dividing exactly upon the party line, as in the Florida case. All the Republicans on the tribunal seem to agree with that bitter partisan judge, Miller, who said before he went on the commission, "This Tilden party has no rights, and ought not to expect anything."

This infamous decision gives Louisiana to Hayes, and virtually decides the Presidential question against Tilden and the voice of the American people.

Our hopes now hang upon the merest thread. Oregon is the last chance. A tribunal that deliberately violates the constitution as to Florida and Louisiana will hardly uphold that instrument as to Oregon.

MR. STAPLES' AMENDMENT.

Mr. Staples, of Guilford, has introduced into the House of Representatives an amendment to the constitution, which authorizes the General Assembly to exempt from taxation, for any number of years it may see proper, capital employed in manufacturing and agricultural improvements in this State. For instance, if a man purchases a water power and puts upon it improvements to the amount say of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) the General Assembly may provide, under this amendment, that the property shall be taxed at the assessment of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for say ten years; and after that his improved value. It will be easily perceived that in one year the taxable value of the property would be increased tenfold; and consequently that the first years' tax after the expiration of the ten years, the period of exemption, would be tenfold greater than the whole amount of taxation on the original value of the property during the entire ten years.

To illustrate, at the present rate of taxation (38 cents on the \$100) the water-power at its original valuation of \$1,000 would bring into the treasury of the State \$3.80 a year, or \$38.00 in ten years. With the \$100 of improvements put upon it, the State would not only not lose this \$38.00 during the ten years of exemption of the improvements, it is provided that the property shall continue to be taxed at the original assessment of \$1,000; but, the taxation on the improved property the seventh year would amount, at the rate of 38 cents, to \$38.00 plus the \$3.80 on the original valuation. So that the State would get in a single year \$38.00 on property which, if it had been unimproved, would not have yielded that amount of taxes in less than 101 years.

It is very plain, therefore, that the State can in no wise lose anything where this exemption from taxation induces parties to buy idle water powers and the like and improve them. Far from losing anything, even the fraction of a cent, the State would be a great gainer by the adoption of such an amendment. Georgia—the empire State of the South, the leader in industry and enterprise—presents a living example of this truth. Such an exemption will induce capitalists to invest their money in manufacturing and agricultural enterprises, instead of going into the already over-crowded marts of the State with it, or carrying it in brick and mortar, or piling it up in the banks. What could more benefit the State than the establishment of manufacturing enterprises and the encouragement of agricultural projects? North Carolina abounds in untold natural resources; her bosom is rich with treasure, and she needs only the magic touch of capital to unlock the hidden stores and pour forth her wealth upon the channels of trade and commerce. And capital will not seek borders to the extent that is desirable for the development of our resources, unless inducements are held out to it by the State, as is done in other States of the Union. There is no stronger incentive to hold out than exemption from taxation.

The building of factories would serve another great and most beneficial purpose. It would afford employment to thousands of needy men, women and children; and many a thriving, busy, teeming village would spring up and flourish where now only solitudes are found. The Roanoke, the Neuse, the Deep, the Haw, the Yadkin, the Dan, the Catawba and the French Broad Rivers, should all be lined with manufacturing towns and villages; and if we will adopt a liberal policy towards capital seeking this sort of investment, the day is not distant when we shall behold factories springing up along those streams, and towns and villages forming rapidly around them.

Many other reasons might be adduced in support of the proposed amendment, had we the space to spare. Whatever may be urged against the measure, this much may be said in answer to them all, that there can be no objection to clothing the Legislature with the power to make such exemptions, if they shall see proper to do so. We can safely entrust such a power to the wisdom and the patriotism of the General Assembly.

HOW THEY DISLIKE TO LET GO.

When Gov. Vance came into office he found the Atlantic & North Carolina Railroad on its last legs. Interest upon its mortgaged bonds was past due, a large claim for taxes to the U. S. Government was urged against it, and a large debt for current expenses had been incurred. The Board of Directors, at the head of which was L. W. Humphrey, had run it deeper into debt each year, until it was almost where its mortgage could be foreclosed, and the road sold out, to the great delight of certain hungry exhorters who stood around ready to buy it.

As there seemed no earthly prospect of Humphrey and his Board doing anything to relieve the road of its embarrassment, the Governor, exercising a right conferred by the charter—a right exercised by Gov. Caldwell when Humphrey first went into the Board—removed Humphrey and the State Board of Directors, and appointed others.

Being notified by the chairman of the new Board, Humphrey intimated his readiness to surrender, and appointed a day for his Board to meet and concur in the proposition. After postponing this day as long as possible, the Board did meet on the 13th and refused to surrender. A proposition was made to them by the new Board, approved by Gov.

Vance, that if they would raise the means to relieve the road and prevent its sale they would withdraw and leave them in possession until next June, the time for which they claimed to hold; and if they declined to do this then the Governor's Board asked to be let in and promised to raise the means required at once, as sure as Humphrey and company that they only desired to save the road from litigation and sale.

This proposition was made known to one of Humphrey's directors many days before the 13th by Governor Vance, and to avoid the omen which would attach to the refusal to agree to so reasonable a proposition. Humphrey procures a suit to be brought by one West, an agent of the road, who is the owner of five entire shares of stock, in conjunction with the Radical commissioners of Craven County, against himself and the bondholders of the road upon which an injunction is issued ordering the company not to pay its debts &c. They then refuse to turn over the road to the Governor's appointees, and adopt a resolution that the Board will help the plaintiff, will employ some set for him and delay part of the expense of litigation. Humphrey is ordered to assist and is authorized to employ other counsels.

The effect of this infamous conspiracy to rob the State of a work in which she has \$1,700,000 invested is now apparent. Having picked its bones for the original assessment of \$1,000, and run it into debt some \$30,000, their object now is to put it into the courts, have Humphrey appointed a receiver and so swing on until it is sold, when the Legislature not being in session, they could gobble it up on their own terms.

This scheme would not have been developed until after the expected adjournment on the 3d of March, but that Governor Vance wisely wanted them to show their hands and forced the issue.

We trust the General Assembly will take prompt action to protect the interests of the State. Perhaps, this is the first case in our courts where a plaintiff employs counsel to assist the plaintiff, in compelling himself to do what the court orders him to do! By making Humphrey counsel to prosecute a suit against himself, he can get a good large slice out of the corpus of the fund.

Jake Scott, (who, by the by, is holding Dick King may also be feed as counsel or be cheaper to send for Littlefield and divide it out between these last ragged fragments of Radicalism, share and share alike?

THE MERCANTILE TAX.

Some days ago Mr. Crawford presented to the Senate a petition from the merchants of Salisbury showing that the ad valorem tax on goods, ware and merchandise, or tax act of 1814-75 and previous years, is oppressive, and in their estimation unjust; because, practically involving a double tax on the same article which the said act both in its spirit and language contemplates to avoid; and paying that the said act be repealed.

Several other petitions of similar import from other parts of the State, have been presented to the Legislature. The merchants in every city and town in North Carolina are interested in the matter. There is general complaint among them; and a universal desire for the removal of this onerous feature of the tax law.

The law, as it stands at present, requires merchants to pay taxes under schedule B for all their purchases, and also to pay property tax on the same goods on April 1st of each year; thus, virtually laying a double tax.

No class of business men are more heavily taxed than the merchants, and none more cheerfully contribute to the support of the government, as well as to the advancement of all enterprises of a general beneficial nature. It is bad policy, to say the least of it, to ride a willing horse to death. The merchant should not be required to pay more than his fair share of the money necessary for public purposes. To put a double tax on him smacks of injustice.

Mr. Bird, the English chess player, engaged 25 separate antagonists simultaneously at Montreal on Saturday, winning 22 games out of the 25, drawing 2, and losing one.

THE HUMPHREY SCHEME.

Resolutions adopted at a Meeting of the Directors of the Atlantic & North Carolina Railroad, at Newbern, Feb. 13, 1877.

WHEREAS A suit has been instituted on the part of the Commissioners of Craven County, i. b. behalf of said county as stockholders and all other stockholders of the Atlantic & North Carolina Railroad Company, against the said Company and the State of North Carolina, the Board of Directors of the said Company, the President, Directors, Officers and agents, restraining and enjoining the same from paying any amount to the bondholders of the said Company for any interest claimed to be due, or payment of any principal; and

WHEREAS The President and Directors represent the stockholders of the said company, therefore, the said company should and will co-operate with the said plaintiffs, in the prosecution of the said suit and contribute a portion of the suit out of the amount of the same.

WHEREAS That L. W. Humphrey, President of the said company, is hereby instructed to assist the plaintiffs in the prosecution of the said suit and authorized to employ counsel in the prosecution of the same.

The road stood, ayes, Messrs. King, Davis, Scott, Harper, Pittman, Campbell, Smith and Duncan, Nays, Messrs. Morehead and Grimesley. Mr. Stanley was excused from voting.]

We have a communication protesting against retaining in position in the State Institutions at Raleigh, Republicans, with the spirit of which we agree. It is bad policy to sustain political opponents in their positions when their positions are not that of the law.

Italy has declared its seventeen universities open to women. Alike action has been taken by Switzerland, Norway, Sweden and Denmark. A mid-istrial order has been issued in Holland opening every university and gymnasium to women. France has opened the Sorbonne to women, and Russia its highest schools of medicine and surgery.

The regular use of Goldfin's Liquid Extract of Beef and Tonics Invigorant, is the most direct means of obtaining physical development and a state of invigoration and parts vigor to the whole system. W. LEWIS & H. WOOD Agents.

JOHN WILLY

world always be supported by such a number of the Commission that no decision would depend on his sole vote. It was desirable, as a means of satisfying the public mind, that the decisions reached by the Commission should not rest on divisions by a party line. But the first important vote showed that this was a delusion.

This is the Western style of managing the Enoch Aiden business: Henry M. Stevens parted from his wife to go to Kansas State prison to serve out a sentence of five years. She vowed fidelity, but on hearing a false report that he was dead, she married John Steinman. Stevens returned home from prison to find his wife happy with another, but he did not go quietly, and left her. He shot Steinman, killing him instantly, and brutally whumped the woman.

It will be remembered that after the St. Louis trial the President, although compelled by the force of public opinion to dismiss Babcock from his desk in the Executive Mansion, retained him not only in personal favor but also in various positions of public trust.

As engineer in charge of public buildings, and chief engineer of the Washington aqueduct, he has continued to control the disbursement of large sums of money. The disgraced scoundrel who had narrowly escaped a convict's un-

der trial was ideologically kept by Gray in an office responsible to the government, and abiding every facility for undisturbed peculation.

PERSONAL.

When Senator Anthony speaks he seems to sink into himself.

Senator Conkling means a quill pen with graceful delicacy.

Senator Bayard will in tribunal, work constantly with his pen.

Senator Howe, of Wisconsin, looks like the proverbial Sam Slick.

Hon. Scott Lord is thought to resemble Tweed in personal appearance.

Mr. John Lothrop Motley is said to be engaged upon his third novel.

Christine Nilsson has been appointed chamber singer to the imperial court of Austria.

Congressman Garfield is as companionable a country schoolmaster and does not offend his hair.

Senator Patterson, of South Carolina, wears poetical hair and has the walk of a jaunty swain.

Congressman Jere Haralson, of Alabama, is straight a fellow that he makes black looks white.

Senator Thurman asks frequent questions of the arguing counsel in a tone of stern significance.

Hon. Martin L. Townsend always speaks with his hands in his pockets and is as good as two circuses.

Governor Newbold of Iowa, put his arm around into this brief sentence: "I'll do the best I can."

Miss Ingene Reid was married in Baltimore the other day, and is said her father gave her as a wedding gift a quarter of a million dollars.

Judge Bradley makes his notes with diligence, follows the lawyers with close attention and scratches slow notes with a quill.

Mr. Matt Carpenter likes to rest his hand on his hand and to go about to counsel whispering words that he supplements with a jolly smile.

Captain Bovington is among the foreigners who have been promised a reception by the Pope—indeed, it has probably been accorded to him by this time.

Charles Francis Adams is chairman of the sub-committee at Boston to solicit subscriptions to the proposed statue of Liberty of New York harbor.

Sir William Ferguson, president of the Royal College of Surgeons, and sergeant surgeon to the queen, died Sunday in London, at the age of 69.

A Welshman just getting into the mysteries of the language on this side the Atlantic spells lunatic "lunwmatic." This is what made Job Billings give up.

Mr. Moody has received numerous letters from young men who have defrauded their employers, confessing their crime, and stating that his preaching had driven them to make restitution.

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NOTES AND OPINIONS.

All kings claim to be such by the grace of God; but when Rutherford B. Hayes is inaugurated as President it will be by the grace of fraud.

Thus far Hayes and Wheeler have gained four of the contested electoral votes. There are twenty-one more yet to be decided, and Hayes and Wheeler must get them all, or else the names of the new President and Vice President will

